

BSD

**ERETZ ISRAEL
BULLETIN 197**

**WORLD ALLIANCE FOR THE CORRECTION
OF THE SIN OF THE SPIES**

**“LIVING IN ERETZ ISRAEL IS THE EQUIVALENT OF ALL THE
MITZVOT OF THE TORAH” (SIFRE, PARASHAT REE)**

LEARN THE LESSON AND DO NOT FOLLOW ON THE FOOTSTEPS OF THE SPIES

**R' YOSEF CHAIM SONNENFELD NEVER ADVISED A JEW TO
LEAVE ERETZ ISRAEL. EVEN IN THE MOST TRYING
SITUATIONS, HE WOULD ENCOURAGE PEOPLE TO REMAIN
IN ERETZ ISRAEL AND PUT THEIR TRUST IN G-D IN WHOSE
POWER RESTS THE SOLUTION TO ALL PROBLEMS.**

Many times, R' Chaim succeeded in convincing people to remain despite severe hardships. A man and his wife once sought R' Chaim's aid in mediating a family dispute. The man asserted that he had exhausted all possible means of earning a livelihood in Eretz Israel and he was therefore compelled to leave his family temporarily and seek employment in America, as 50 many of his friends had done. His wife, on the other hand, insisted that she would be content with dry bread and water as long as their children would have a father to raise them in the Torah way and supervise their studies.

R' Chaim turned to the couple and said, "I will give you a simple analogy. A man and wife were blessed with so large a family that it was impossible for them to sit all at one table. The parents therefore instituted that they would sit alone at a small table, while all the children would sit at a separate one. The arrangement worked well except for one child who refused to eat or drink anything unless he could sit at his parent's table. All their coaxing, cajoling, and threats were to no avail. Seeing the child's stubborn persistence, the parents finally had pity on their beloved child and made room for him at their cramped table."

Turning to the husband whose face had become creased by the pressures of being unable to support his family, R' Chaim continued, "My son, it is true that our land is small and still undeveloped and that possibilities for earning a livelihood here are very limited. It is also true that other countries are developed and blessed with great wealth and offer much better prospects for earning a living. Our land has not yet merited to return to its former glory and bounty. However, those children who insist on sitting only at their Father's table - eventually, those children will have their wish fulfilled." The young man remained in Eretz Israel and, within a short time, began to earn a decent living.

FROM SEFER HA ISH AL HA CHOMA

**PLEASE HASHEM SAVE US FROM THE SIN OF THE SPIES WHO SPOKE LASHON
HARA AGAINST ERETZ ISRAEL. LET US CORRECT THE SIN OF “THEY DESPISED
THE DESIRABLE LAND” (TEHILLIM 106) FOR IN THIS WAY WE BRING CLOSER
THE COMPLETE GEULA WHEN YOUR NAME WILL BE SANCTIFIED IN THE
WORLD AND YOUR NATION ISRAEL SHALL BE EXALTED AND YOUR BEIT HA
MIKDASH REBUILT MAY THIS BE SOON IN OUR DAYS, AMEN YEHI RATZON**